

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/653,245

Examiner

Kimberly D Flynn

Applicant(s)

CORDRAY ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to an Amendment filed October 6, 2004.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-23.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 06 November 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

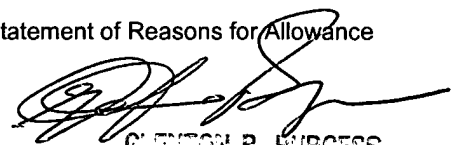
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 12/21/2000
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


CLINTON B. BURGESS
SENIOR PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNICAL CENTER 2153

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-23 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:
3. Applicant's invention is drawn to a system that provides notification of automatically forwarded electronic mail messages. To accomplish the above function according to the present invention, there is provided a method system and program in a data processing system for processing an electronic mail message. The electronic mail message is identified for a recipient and it is determined whether the electronic mail message for the recipient is being forwarded from another address associated with the recipient. An indicator is included to identify the electronic mail message as being forwarded if the electronic mail message being forwarded is from another address associated with the recipient.
4. Applicant's independent claims 1, 10-12, and 21-23 each recite, *inter alia*, a system and method in a data processing system for processing an electronic mail message comprising the steps of determining whether the electronic mail message is to an old address for a recipient, wherein the old address is no longer a current address for the recipient, including an indicator identifying the electronic mail message as being forwarded from the old address wherein the indicator indicates that the old address is no longer current for the recipient, and sending the electronic mail message with the indicator to another address if the electronic mail message is to be forwarded to another address associated with the recipient. Applicant's invention of claims 1,

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10-12, and 21-23 comprise a particular combination of elements, which is neither taught nor suggested by the prior art.

5. The closest prior art of record:

McDowell, U. S. Patent No. 6, 438, 583; discloses a method and apparatus for re-routing e-mail sent to a prior address to the new address of an intended recipient wherein the user signs up with the re-route server to have email forwarded to a new address and when e-mail, that is to be forwarded, is received at the re-route server, the e-mail is forwarded to the recipient's "toAccount" address which has been provided by the re-route customer to the re-route server.

McDowell does not teach including an indicator identifying the electronic mail message as being forwarded from the old address wherein the indicator indicates that the old address is no longer current for the recipient, and sending the electronic mail message with the indicator to another address if the electronic mail message is to be forwarded to another address associated with the recipient.

Henderson, U. S. Patent No. 6,185,603; discloses a system and method for delivering e-mail and alerting messages wherein the typical email message includes a portion that indicates the source of the message and from where it was forwarded. Henderson does not teach including an indicator identifying the electronic mail message as being forwarded from the old address wherein the indicator indicates that the old address is no longer current for the recipient, and sending the electronic mail message with the indicator to another address if the electronic mail message is to be forwarded to another address associated with the recipient.

Nielson, U. S. Patent No. 6,405,243; discloses a system and method for forwarding an email message to an updated email address wherein the sender's email program constructs a new

email message containing the content of the sender's original message but addressed to the new email address of the recipient and transmits the new message to the recipient's new address.

Nielson does not teach including an indicator identifying the electronic mail message as being forwarded from the old address wherein the indicator indicates that the old address is no longer current for the recipient, and sending the electronic mail message with the indicator to another address if the electronic mail message is to be forwarded to another address associated with the recipient.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kimberly D Flynn whose telephone number is 571-272-3954. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:00.

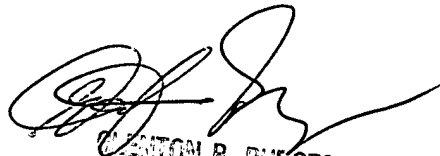
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Glen Burgess can be reached on 703-305-4792. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Kimberly D Flynn
Examiner
Art Unit 2153

KDF



CLINTON B. BURGESS
SUPERVISOR, PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2153